1	2	3	4	5
1991-92	12.1	12.0	29.3	13.94
1992-93	15.1	13.1	(−) 12.1	17.58
1993-94	12.5	10.5	48.8	13.10
1994-95	11.1	14.3	27.6	20.54

*Relates to calender year.

(d) As the cotton cloth is a value added item, its prices are influenced by number of factors. Hence, it is difficult to maintain price parity between raw cotton and cotton cloth.

Falling Wheat Output

1920. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware of falling wheat output in North India during the past few years;

(b) if so, whether agriculture experts from India and foreign countries are examining causes of stagnation in wheat production;

(c) if so, the factors responsible for the decline in wheat output in North India; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to boost the production of wheat in North India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) During the last few years the wheat output in North India has not fallen. In fact during the year 1994-95 it has reached a record level of 65.47 million tonnes with major contribution coming from North India.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) In order to increase the production and productivity of wheat, a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Central Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Wheat) is being implemented in the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan (Northern) & Uttar Pradesh (Western). In addition to this, a Central Sector Wheat Minikit Demonstration Programme is also being implemented in wheat growing States for popularising newly released varieties.

Plan of NRIBHCO for not taking over fertilizer units in Russia and USA

1921. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether KRIBHCO has shelved its plans for taking over fertilizer units in Russia and USA;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the amount spent on the preparations for taking over including Consultant's fee, foreign tours etc.; and

(c) if not, the amount allocated for the take over and scheduled date of production from these units?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Pursuant to Government approval to the proposal of KRIBHCO for initiating the 'Due Diligence Process' (Preparation of the Detained Feasibility Report) for acquiring equity stakes in phosphatic fertilizer plant(s) in USA/Russia, one plant in USA and two plants in Russia were shortlisted. The report of the Due Diligence Process was examined by a Committee of Senior Executives of KRIBHCO. As per the assessment of the Committee, the acquisition was not found to be techno-economically viable. The Board of Directors of KRIBHCO have, therefore, finally decided not to go in for any investment in acquiring phosphatic manufacturing facilities either in USA or in Russia.

In the above exercise of 'Due Diligence